

Questions From the Field!

Q	<p>I have 9 1/2 years sea duty. I have been assigned to a WYTL, WLM, WLB, WMEC and a WHEC. I have friends that have been assigned to one ship for a 3-year tour. I have 3 times the amount of sea time they do and they have 3 times the amount of sea time points for SWE than mine. Why? Because all of mine with the exception of 1 yr 3 mos was prior to February 1994.</p> <p>Why doesn't my sea time prior to 1FEB94 count for SWE points?</p>
A	<p>The official decision was made by G-WPM in ALCOAST 010/96. The object was to create an incentive to volunteer for sea duty. WPM came to this decision at the request and research of the MCPOCG's office. The 01 Feb 1994, date was chosen based on analysis and statistics that showed beginning with that date women had the same opportunity to go to sea as men</p> <p>There are two separate categories of sea time for Service Wide Exam purposes:</p> <p><u>Sea Time for Eligibility</u>- Determines if you have the sea time necessary to compete in the SWE based on the requirements of the PERSMAN 5.C.15. The system looks at a member's prior and current unit history file to get the years/months of sea time. TDY will not show up for this. All Coast Guard sea time before and after 1 Feb 94 counts for eligibility. Depending on the rating, advancement to the next pay grade may require rated sea time or sea time in any pay grade, some ratings have no sea time requirements.</p> <p><u>Other service</u> sea time (Navy, Marines) "may" be credited for eligibility purposes on a case-by-case basis. Requests for other service sea time credit are sent to PSC (adv) via message after a Statement Of Creditable Sea Service (SOCSS) has been completed by PSC (ses). The SOCSS is the first step in receiving credit. If the SOCSS has not been completed, the request will be denied. If the PERSMAN requires sea time to be in rating, the request is forwarded from PSC (adv) to the applicable Rating Force Manager for approval/disapproval. If the PERSMAN does not require sea time to be in rating for the member in question, PSC (adv) approves/disapproves the waiver without forwarding the request to the Rating Manager. Other service sea time credit requests, if denied can be appealed to PERSCOM (epm-1) for active duty, or PERSCOM (rpm-1) for reserve personnel. Message format is listed in HRSICINST M1418.1B, page 18</p> <p><u>Sea Time for Points</u>- For SWE points, only Coast Guard (not prior service) sea time after 1 Feb 94 is counted. Two points per year (maximum 30) are given for sea time served on sea pay eligible vessels after 01 Feb 94 up to the Terminal Eligibility Date for that SWE. Sea time points are calculated from a member's sea pay record. TAD to a qualifying vessel is credible if no per diem is paid.</p> <p><u>Credit for TDY Sea Time</u> - TDY time aboard a sea pay eligible vessel is creditable towards sea time for eligibility and sea time for points. The members PERSRU must document TDY in PMIS/JUMPS by inputting sea pay/time documents. If the start sea pay/time documents are not in PMIS/JUMPS, credit for points or for eligibility will not be given. Keep in mind that if sea pay is started for TDY, SEPRATS will also be stopped for the TDY period. If properly documented in PMIS/JUMPS, sea time points will automatically be awarded, however, if that TDY time is needed to meet sea time eligibility requirements, a message must be sent to PSC (adv) requesting the credit, because sea time for eligibility is only credited automatically for PCS assignments. Remember, TDY time must be documented by your PERSRU and visible in PMIS/JUMPS, Segment 07, prior to receiving any credit for it. .</p>

Questions From the Field!

Q	Why doesn't the advancement list reveal member's final multiple? This would be helpful to the field to see how much personnel are missing the cut by.
A	Simply put, the final multiple is a compilation of factors used to position and grade qualified persons for advancement. As such it would be a privacy act violation.
Q	A lot is written about the process at the command/member level. I'm personally curious about the SWE process after SWE tests are returned to PSC. Can you explain what happens when the SWE's arrive at PSC? Who actually gets them? (I was told once that only YNCM's could be involved) The review process? Scanning procedures? Are they stored after scanning or destroyed? I think it would provide a lot of insight to the process to explain what happens once they are signed, sealed, and delivered.
A	<p>Though we cannot reveal the entire process because of protected information, here's a rough list of what happens to your SWE after you take it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWE officer then FedEx's answer sheets and challenged questions to PSC(adv) and destroys the test booklets • PSC (adv) receives all answer sheets and challenged questions • PSC (adv) checks answer sheets received, against actual tests mailed, against unit rosters for accountability purposes. • PSC (adv) forwards challenged questions to the Subject Matter Experts (SME) located at TRACENS and other units in the field. • PSC (adv) runs the answer sheets through a scanner, which creates an electronic answer file, which is then downloaded to Direct Access. • Direct Access grades answer files and creates a raw score for member. • SME's notify PSC (adv) of any questions to be credited. • PSC(adv) credits questions and sends to Direct Access to re-grade tests • Raw Score is then converted to a Standard Score after all tests have been graded and averaged. • Paper answer sheets are then filed and maintained in a secure file room for several years and are then destroyed. • Standard score becomes part of the member's final multiple and is posted to member's online profile letter • The Headquarters master eligibility list is created in rank order based on member's final multiple. • The List is published and sent to the Gold Badge network for release to the field. • The List is placed on the PSC (adv) website (http://cgweb.uscg.mil/g-w/psc/adv.htm) to ensure highest distribution possible.